

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 28, 2007

Board and Liaison Members Present: Anne Long-Chairperson, Rosemary Almond, Curtis Braxton, Ange Burnett, Jim Burton, Dwayne Cooper, Elree Langford, Barbara Maizie, Carol McCrary, Carol McKinney, Stephanie Meakin, Penny Musante, Lauri Parks, Pam Perls, Will Sanford, Rocio Smith, Pat Yamamoto

Excused: Wilson Barfield, Ian Bremner, Stephen Dale, Lupe Henry, Betsy Katz, Mindy Lee, Elizabeth Wilson Palmer, Angela Quiroga, Norma Ramos, Peg Rimler, Barbara Sheehy, Diana Thomas

Guests: Nimfa Coleman, Mission-Hope Day Program; Laura Corona, RCEB; Alany Helmantoler, parent/CERT; Fred Houston, Mission Hope Day Program; Sandra Jackson, Las Trampas, Inc.; Melanie Kilcorse, RCEB; Krista Loomis, Full Circle; Norman and Yasmin Lozano, NY Learning Center; Mark Melanson, Toolworks; Dan Pope, parent; Heidi Spaulding, Alive/Full Circle

Staff: Gina Jennings, Director; Pamela Newacheck, Acting Secretary

Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Anne Long called the meeting to order at 10:00am. She welcomed all to the meeting and everyone present introduced him or herself.

- Approval of Minutes: Anne Long called for approval of the February 28, 2007 meeting minutes. They were unanimously approved (motion by Will Sanford, second by Carol McCrary).
- Additions to the Agenda: None

Board Community Concerns/Unmet Service Needs

No report

Community Announcements

- Rocio Smith - Area Board 5 received \$5,000 from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to be used as mini-grants on projects that promote education and leadership development to underserved populations. For an application packet, contact Area Board 5 at 510-286-0439.
- Rocio Smith – a presentation on Disaster Preparedness will take place on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 7:00pm on the 3rd floor of RCEB in Concord. Ana-Marie Jones and Richard Ruge will be presenting.
- Matteo's Dream – the City of Concord is looking for volunteers to help build this playground for children of all abilities at Hillcrest Park in Concord. Workdays are from April 20-22, and April 25-29. Rayna Ravitz, from the City of Concord, distributed information to register to work. A motion was made by Will Sanford and a second was made by Lauri Parks to cancel the April 25 DD Council Meeting and instead spend that time on Matteo's Dream site working. The vote was unanimous in favor. Council members were invited to park in the George Miller Center Concord parking lot and walk to the construction site.
- Yasmin Lozano announced that the NY Learning Center is fully licensed, vendored and accepting consumers. The center will be open M-F, generally from 2 to 6pm. Exceptions are during school holidays and summer vacation when hours at 8am-6pm. A handout was made available with more information.

Special Presentation – SB1270 Stakeholder Work Group Summary – Barbara Maizie, Rocio Smith and Will Sanford

(see attached power point description of process)

Rocio Smith gave an overview of SB 1270 and its intentions. This meeting was marked as an input session; a time for the community to give feedback on the draft proposal. The Stakeholders group will be meeting in early May to review all the input. The recommendations were discussed and there were twelve specific points that Barbara Maizie and Will Sanford felt that the Council should review relative to the proposed bill. After review and lengthy discussion the Council endorsed the points with one or two minor wording changes. Rocio, Barbara and Will will be actively following this process and keep us abreast of any changes etc. SB 1270 Draft Recommendations and the 12 points are attached for your review.

Committee Reports

Legislation Committee – Will Sanford

- The Legislative Breakfast will be April 20, focusing on Health Care, led by Senator Yee.
- There are twelve “spot” bills floating around. Mark DeSaulnier has submitted one regarding disabled parking AB 1351. They are written in full language, so there will probably be few wording changes made.

Unmet Needs Committee – Ange Burnett

Ange believes this committee should become a subgroup of Family Support. Carol McCrary made a motion and a second was made by Will Sanford to merge the two committees. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Transition Committee – Penny Musante for Liz Wilson Palmer

- There will be a transition fair on April 24 for those with learning disabilities.

Family Support Committee

Betsy is working on completing the written recommendations.

Aging Committee – Ann Long

At their first meeting last week, the role of this committee was discussed. Some issues they will be grappling with include:

- What happens to those not in day programs
- Need for more meetings for families
- How to address the range of cultural backgrounds within the families

East Bay Autism Committee-Gina Jennings

Requested grant to make information more user-friendlier on web sites, and translatable. There is a packet available with final recommendations.

RCEB Update – Jim Burton

- The Senate Budget Hearing will be held at 10:00am in room 4203 on April 9, and the Assembly Budget Hearing will be held at 1:30pm in Room 444 on April 11. Families are encouraged to attend. Please check web page for updates on time and locations
- There are no new cuts proposed in the Governor’s budget, but no relief from the “temporary” cost containment measures.
- There will be to a \$200 million deficit for all state regional centers (approx. \$1.1 to \$3.7 million for RCEB). In July there will most likely be a deficiency bill passed that will fill the gap. DD Council will need to support this deficiency bill.
- Need to carefully review the May revision to ensure that no additional cost containment measures are added.
- There are 19.5 case management positions vacant at RCEB. Staffing hasn’t changed since 1990, though caseload has increased tremendously. They are doing everything possible to fill the positions.
- There is a Crisis Residential Facility for adolescents re-opening in May.

Annual Dinner Planning – Gina Jennings

Please keep the dates between May 31 and June 5 open – date depends on the availability of the keynote speaker.

Announcements

- Thanks to Lauri Parks for the tasty snacks.
- Heidi Spalding has travel mugs for sale as a fundraiser for Area Board 5 People 1st.
- Barbara Maizie announced that Betsy Katz is retiring from CARE Parent Network and Joan Crook, who has worked with CARE for the last 5 years, has been hired as her replacement.
- Penny Musante stated that the next transportation meeting is May 21 at 2pm at CCTA at 3478 Buskirk Avenue #100 in Pleasant Hill.
- Please check with Gina Jennings if you are not receiving regular mailings.

Adjournment – Anne Long

Meeting was adjourned at 12:17pm. The next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April March 28, 2007 will be held at the worksite of Matteo's Dream in Concord. The May meeting will be as scheduled on Wednesday, May 23, 2007. Mindy Lee from Asian Family Resource Center is scheduled to bring snacks.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Newacheck
Acting Secretary